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IMPORTANT NOTICE TELECOPY/FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

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TO: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Examiner: Brian J. Sines
Art Unit: 1743

DATE: February 25, 2005

FROM: Barry M. Shuman/Wei-Ning Yang

TIME:

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER: 9

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MESSAGE:

RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/915,865; Attorney Ref: 81841.0155

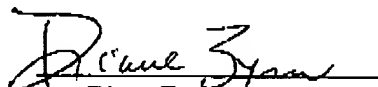
I hereby certify that the following documents:

- Amendment
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are being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, for filing in the above application.

February 25, 2005

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Diane Zynn

TELECOPY/FAX NUMBER: 703-872-9306 - Art Unit 1743

CLIENT NUMBER: 81841.0155

ATTORNEY BILLING NUMBER: 6085

CONFIRMATION NUMBER: 703-305-0401 (please return fax to Diane Zynn)

FORM PTO-1083

Patent Application No. 09/915,865
Attorney Docket No. 81841.0155 (2009-174)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Richard R. Sharpe, Jr. et al.

Serial No: 09/915,865

Filed: July 26, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OBJECT-ORIENTED REAL-TIME MECHANICAL CONTROL OF AUTOMATED CHEMISTRY INSTRUMENTS

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Brian J. Sines

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Signature

02/25/2005

Date

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Col. 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		(Col. 3) PRESENT EXTRA*	LG/SM \$ ENTITY FEE	ADD'L FEE DUE
TOTAL CLAIMS FEE	8	-	26	**	0	LG=\$50 SM=\$25	\$ 0
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS FEE	1	-	4	***	0	LG=\$200 SM=\$100	\$ 0
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS						LARGE ENTITY FEE = \$360 SMALL ENTITY FEE = \$180	\$ 0
ADDITIONAL SIZE FEE (IF ANY) (TOTAL PAGES OF SPEC AND DRAWINGS TOGETHER)						\$250 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL 50 SHEETS	\$ 0
Independent Claims: 1						TOTAL	\$ 0

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

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☐ A check in the amount of \$ 0 to cover the additional claims fee is enclosed. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☐ A check in the amount of \$ 0 to cover the extension fee is enclosed. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims

☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

By: Barry M. Shuman

Wei-Ning Yang (Contact Person)

Registration No. 38,690

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Appl. No. 09/915,865

Attorney Docket No. 81841.0155 (2009-174)

Amdt. Dated February 25, 2005

Customer No. 26021

Reply to Final Office Action of November 30, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Richard R. Sharpe, Jr. et al.

Serial No: 09/915,865

Filed: July 26, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
OBJECT-ORIENTED REAL-TIME
MECHANICAL CONTROL OF
AUTOMATED CHEMISTRY
INSTRUMENTS

Confirmation No.: 7692

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Brian J. Sines

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P.O. Box 1450
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Diane Zynn

Name

Signature *Diane Zynn* 02/25/2005

Date

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 30, 2004, please
amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on
page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.